Gentle Reads: Stories of small town life and everyday people. Cozy, sometimes romantic, good for rainy days or lifting up a sad mood. Occasionally religious, little or no violence or profanity.

Austen, Jane

Pride and Prejudice Emma

Matchmaking, manners and marriage in the close-knit communities of England in the early 1800's. Timeless, romantic and fun.

Beaton, M. C.

As the Pig Turns : an Agatha Raisin mystery

The picturesque Cotwsold village of Winter Parva has decided to warm the winter months after the holidays by roasting a pig in the town square.

Bevarly, Elizabeth

The House on Butterfly Way
While renovating an old house and her life
after a divorce, Eugenie Dashner begins
working at a dating service and draws the
attention of two men who bring romance
back into her life.

Benson, E.F.

Mapp & Lucia

The hilarious saga of the rivalry between two middle-aged ladies in 1920's England: the inspirational Lucia and her archenemy, the cunning Miss Mapp.

Binchy, Maeve

Evening Class

A group of Dubliners is brought together through their after-hours Italian language class.

Chiaverini, Jennifer

The Quilter's Kitchen (Elm Creek Quilts series)

The marriage of a renowned quilting instructor prompts the stitching of a perfect commemorative bridal quilt by the Elm Creek Quilters.

Daheim, Mary

Gone with the Win

When Ruby Tooms, the world-weary barmaid she met at Oktoberfest, arrives at her bed-and-breakfast with some unexpected baggage, Judith McMonigle Flynn agrees to help Ruby solve the 20-year-old mystery of her mother's murder.

Dallas, Sandra

Prayers for Sale

This charming novel offers up the unconventional friendship between Hennie Comfort, a natural storyteller entering the twilight of her life, and Nit Spindle, a naïve young newlywed, forged in the isolated mining town of Middle Swan, Colo., in 1936.

Delderfield, R.F.

To Serve Them All My Days
A teacher at a public school in the
West Country of England experiences
both joy and tragedy.

Edgerton, Clyde

Walking Across Egypt
The orderly life of 78-year-old Mattie
Rigsby of Listre, North Carolina, is
disrupted by a stray dog and a teenaged
juvenile delinquent.

Evans, Richard Paul

A Perfect Day

Laid off from his sales rep job, Robert Paul decides to pursue his dream of becoming a writer and unexpectedly pens a best seller, but when his success compromises his

marriage, he receives unexpected guidance from a stranger.

Gillman, Dorothy

The Elusive Mrs. Pollifax
A widowed matron decides to pursue her lifelong desire to be a spy, finds herself useful to the CIA, and successfully completes an assignment which takes her from New Jersey to Mexico City to Albania.

Gulley, Philip

Home to Harmony

The new pastor in a small Indiana town experiences one humorous adventure after another as he acclimates to his new congregation and lifestyle.

Hinton, Lynne

Five women, working together to create a church cookbook, share

Karon, Jan

their passions, loves, and losses.

At Home in Mitford

The **Mitford Years** series chronicles life in the small North Carolina town of Mitford and its colorful inhabitants.

Keillor, Garrison

Lake Wobegon Days

Coming-of-age in Minnesota's Lake Wobegon, a small town where the women are strong, the men are good-looking, and all the children are above average.

Medlicott, Joan

Gardens of Covington At Home in Covington

Grace, Amelia, and Hannah decide that the last thing they want to do is live out their lives in a group home, and so, to the dismay of their children, they pool their resources and move to Covington,

North Carolina.

Macomber, Debbie

The Shop on Blossom Street
When Lydia Hoffman, cancer survivor and owner of A Good Yarn, starts a knitting class for her patrons, she forms a special friendship with three extraordinary women.

McCall Smith, Alexander

The Limpopo Academy of Private Detection

Precious Ramotswe is called in to tackle a disciplinary problem at her adopted daughter's local school. Meanwhile, her assistant, Grace Makutsi, is having trouble adjusting to wedded bliss and her friend Mma Potokwane is shockingly dismissed from her position as matron at the orphan farm.

Moyes, Jojo

Sheltering Rain

A family drama set in the Irish countryside focuses on three generations of women who are reunited after decades of separation and estrangement.

Pilcher, Rosamunde

Winter Solstice

Five vaguely connected people, ranging in age from teenagers to mid-sixties, find themselves together at Christmas in a large Victorian house in northern Scotland.

Reid, Van

Mollie Peer, or, the Underground
Adventure of the Moosepath League
Daniel Plainway, or, the Holiday
Haunting of the Moosepath League
The rollicking adventures of Tobias Walton
and the jovial Moosepath League, set in
19th-century Maine

Sefton, Maggie

Close Knit Killer

When an acquaintance turns up murdered outside the intended classroom space for

her yarn shop, Kelly Flynn unravels a long list of suspects.

Read, Miss

Tales from a Village School
Chronicles of Fairacre
Two charming series set in close-knit
English villages, focusing on the local
schoolteacher. Cozy reads.

Ross, Ann

Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind
Recently widowed and newly wealthy,
Miss Julia receives the shock of her long
and proper life when her late husband's
mistress turns up on her doorstep with
young son in tow.

Thirkell, Angela

Peace Breaks Out

In the fictional county of Barsetshire, the English gentry try to find love and happiness amid the hardships of WWII.

Trigiani, Adriana

Home to Big Stone Gap
Life in the delightful small southern Blue
Ridge Mountain town of town of Big Stone
Gap, Virginia

Valentine, Katherine

A Miracle for St. Cecilia's

The charming New England town of
Dorsetville and its cast of wry, tough
inhabitants struggle to stay afloat after the
wool mill closes.

Mount Vernon City Library

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Updated 12/14 cn

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(or, If You Like Jan Karon, try...)



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